

# Moguls Say Baseball Is Not Commerce—Minors Are Tottering—Indians Hope to Triumph

## CLAIM BASEBALL IS NOT COMMERCE

If Magnates' Point Is Upheld  
Big Fed Suit Will Fail.

### PEPPER OUTLINES DEFENSE

Secretary Goldman Explains All  
About National Game.

PHILADELPHIA, June 12.—If George Wharton Pepper cuts the plate with his first ball, the famous suit of the Baltimore Feds against organized baseball will be taken to the jury now hearing it in the United States court here.

Pepper's first one, high and fast, is a contention that must be decided by the court, and the question is whether baseball is commerce, and if it is, whether it is interstate commerce. Pepper says baseball is not commerce.

If this point of law is sustained by the court, the case will be taken from the jury, as there would be no violation of trust laws.

All the magnates attending the first day's hearing were on hand again today when the case opened. It was apparent that considerable bitterness would be shown before many more days, providing the trial extends that far.

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## Cleveland Indians Are Confident

Lee Fohl's Men Believe They Have Chance to  
Horn in on 1917 Pennant, if  
Pitchers Make Good.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

The Cleveland Indians, who will play four games with the Griffins in three days, unless it rains and rains some more, are a confident clan. They think they have an excellent chance of winning the 1917 pennant. The Indians bank their hopes on continued improvement in the pitchers, backed by the well-known clouting ability of the regulars and the rapid-fire of such worthies as Ray Chapman, Bill Wambagana, Jack Graney, and Tris Speaker.

It goes without argument that, if the Cleveland pitchers develop as rapidly as Lee Fohl desires, the outfit will prove most dangerous. Today Stanley Coveleskie is pitching as good ball as any pitcher in the league, but no other member of the staff is proving half as steady and effective.

Much Depends on Horton. Much depends upon what Guy Horton is able to do. This young twirler is going ahead slowly, taking no chances of hurting his arm, but if he rounds to and is able to acquire his old form, Fohl's men should be contenders.

The New York Yankees are clinging to third place, but they are only three and a half games ahead of the

## HEMPSTEAD SEEKING SENTENCE FOR UMP

Thinks Byron Should Be Punished  
as Well as "Muggsy."

NEW YORK, June 12.—If Harry Hempstead, president of the New York National League club, has his way John McGraw will not be the only sufferer because of his little bout with Umpire Byron at Cincinnati last Friday. Hempstead, who now is with the Giants in Chicago, sent word that he would see to it that Byron got some sort of punishment.

Hempstead also said he would investigate the reason why the Giants have had Byron and Quigley in five series, O'Day in only one, and Klem in only two prior to the present Chicago series.

McGraw has sent to President Tener a detailed statement of the Cincinnati affair, accompanied by affidavits of reputable, unbiased persons, mostly Cincinnati fans, who were spectators of the row and testified that Byron brought the blow on himself and that he insulted McGraw several times before John J. Starnes hit him.

Ten days in Philadelphia for the Baltimore Federal League suit and has taken no action on McGraw's statement on Hempstead's request that Byron be punished.

## HAS WHOLE ELEVEN

All Who Faced Yale Now Lined Up  
for Uncle Sam.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., June 12.—The Harvard football eleven that played Yale last November is Uncle Sam's eleven now. Today the line-up of the team, now representing the United States, follows:

Harte, right end, Plattsburg; Caner, right tackle, Norton-Harjes Ambulance unit, France; Snow, right guard, Naval Reserve; Harris, center, Plattsburg; Dadman, captain, left guard, American Ambulance unit, France; Wheeler, left tackle, Naval Reserve; Coillidge, left end, Plattsburg; Robinson, quarterback, Plattsburg; Caney, left halfback, Naval Reserve; Thacher, right halfback, Plattsburg; Horween, fullback, Naval Reserve.

## DIAMOND GOSSIP.

Rain, rain, go away. Come again some other day.

Pittsburgh seems anchored in the National League cellar.

Harry Wolter, formerly with the Red Sox and Yankees, is playing good ball for the Cubs.

As an indication of Boston weather, the Braves have fourteen doubleheaders booked for Braves' Field.

Roger Hornsby is keeping up his clouting for the Cardinals and may finish at the head of the procession.

Of the four hits made off Eller, the Red Sox hurler, Ivan Olson, former Cleveland Indian, collected three.

Honus Wagner started yesterday's game against the Braves at first base and later shifted over to third. Same old Honus!

The legal world's series is on at St. Louis. Yesterday George Wharton Pepper twirled for Org. B. H. against Stuart Janney on the mound for the Feds.

Bill Lamar, the Rockville, Md., rookie playing with Jack Dunn's Baltimore Orioles, is leading the league at the bat with a mark of .394. He may rise next season.

After falling out of last company and remaining out for three years, Dave Sheen is playing good ball around second base for the Cincinnati Reds. They never give up.

"Moose" McCormick and Eddie Grant, two former members of the Giants, are training at the officers' reserve camp at Plattsburg, N. Y. Both expect commissions in the overseas army.

The Detroit club has signed up Edmund Miller, an outfielder with Clinton in the Central Association. Miller, slow on his feet, can drive a ball as far as any batter in the business, so the rumor has it.

## BUY KEN WILLIAMS.

ST. LOUIS, June 12.—Kenneth Williams, who is starring in the outfield for the Portland, Ore., team in the Pacific Coast League, has been purchased by the Browns, and will be tried out next spring.

## HILLTOP RUNNERS SELECT GRIFFITH

Former Western High School  
Star Elected to Lead.

### HAS FINE TRACK RECORD

Prospects Good for First Rate Team  
Next Year as Many Will Return.

Dorsey W. Griffith, Georgetown's star sprinter, will be captain of the track team for next season. At a recent meeting of the athletic council Griffith's election by the letter men was ratified.

Three years ago Griffith first sprang into prominence as a member of the Western High School track team. Both Griffith and Robert R. Maxam, the Penn Flyer, were on the Western team, which cleaned up indoors that winter.

Griffith, who was elected captain of the team, is a native of the city and a graduate of Western High School.

The Georgetown youngsters has been on all of Georgetown's victorious relay teams in the past two years besides landing the 440-yard indoor title two years ago. He succeeded Harry Weidman, another local lad, who was captain of the team last year.

Many Runners Back. Unless something unforeseen happens practically all of Georgetown's letter men will be back for the campaign next season. Letters were awarded to Weidman, Griffith, Reneau, Auker, Connolly, Gates, Ahern, O'Connor, Prem, Marr, O'Hagan, and Devlin, manager.

Of the letter men Weidman, O'Connor, and possibly Prem will be missing. The others are expected to return. Griffith, the newly elected captain, is just twenty years old, is a native of the city and a graduate of Western High School.

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## BOB THAYER'S GOSSIP ON SPORTING MATTERS

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## FAILED TO ELECT BASEBALL LEADER

Catholic University Players  
Went Right Out to War.

### SHORTLEY AT FORT MYER

Football Captain and Others Joined  
Organizations at First Call.

Catholic University is without a baseball captain for next year. Failure to elect a leader may mean the appointment of a captain next fall. Tom Kendrick, veteran pitcher, is expected to be the logical choice for the leadership.

When war was declared many Catholic University athletes immediately joined various organizations. So intent were they in joining the colors that they forgot to elect a captain. Among the athletes were practically all of the baseball players.

Mike Shortley, captain of next year's football team, is at present in the Officers' Reserve Corps camp at Fort Myer. Frank Greer, for the past three years a mainstay in basketball and football, is also at Fort Myer.

Pat Rooney and Tom Kendrick, of the baseball team, are under age and are at work at present. Rogers, a native of the city and a graduate of the school, is at the naval training camp at Norfolk.

Pahey and Butler, two other baseball members, are with a shipbuilding concern somewhere in New England.

Frank Kean Elected. At a recent meeting of the track team Frank Kean was chosen to lead the runners for next season. Kean was a member of the relay team, and one of the best quarter-milers in this section of the country.

E. W. O'Brien, crack right forward on the basketball team, was chosen as captain of the team for next year. O'Brien is in his sophomore year, as are many members of the team.

The fact that Shortley is a member of the reserve corps may mean his loss to the football team. No coach has been selected for the eleven as yet, and a meeting of the athletic council is awaited which will determine whether or not the sport will be continued next fall.

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